

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08799 261725Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00
/077 W

-----261733Z 059137 /45

O R 261717Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4424
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS LONDON 08799

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR UK SF
SUBJECT: FOREIGN SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON SOUTH AFRICA

1. ON MAY 25 FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID OWEN GAVE A MAJOR ADDRESS ON SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION IN LONDON. HIS WORDS FIRMLY ASSOCIATE HMG WITH NEWLY-EXPRESSED US POLICY OBJECTIVES TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA. WE WILL CABLE THE FULL TEXT OF THIS IMPORTANT SPEECH SHORTLY; HOWEVER, THE FOLLOWING EXTRACT IS OF INTEREST AND GIVES THE FLAVOR OF HIS ADDRESS AS A WHOLE.

2. BEGIN TEXT WE ARE ENORMOUSLY ENCOURAGED BY THE NEW THRUST OF THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION IN ITS POLICY
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PAGE 02 LONDON 08799 261725Z

TOWARDS THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, THE DETERMINATION TO SEE A SOCIETY EVOLVE IN SOUTH AFRICA IN WHICH ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF COLOUR, CAN LIVE AND WORK IN EQUALITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT, BY THE DETERMINATION TO HELP BRING ABOUT MAJORITY RULE AND THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA.

A CRUDE POLITICAL TRADE-OFF--YOU HELP US, AND WE

WILL RELAX PRESSURE ON YOU--IS NEITHER CREDIBLE NOR DEFENSIBLE. THERE WILL BE NO TRADE-OFFS.

THE TIME SCALE FOR CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM THAT IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. SOUTH AFRICA WILL TAKE TIME TO EVOLVE.

BUT CHANGE THERE MUST BE, AND TO DOWNGRADE OR BACK OFF FROM OUR CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID WILL UNDERMINE OUR CREDIBILITY WITH BLACK AFRICA, AND WEAKEN OUR ABILITY TO PRESS FOR PEACEFUL DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE FOR NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE. END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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